

The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listing of the claims in the present application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for isolating a pluripotent cell which is at least partially committed to a given developmental pathway comprising the steps of:
  - (a) selecting a population of pluripotent cells;
  - (b) detecting ~~Sox gene~~ expression of a Sox gene selected from the group consisting of Sox15, Sox16 and any one of the Sox genes provided in Table 1;
  - (c) sorting the cells according to Sox gene expression; and
  - (d) isolating those cells which express a Sox gene.
2. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said population of cells is derived from CNS tissue.
3. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said population of cells is derived from a cell culture.
4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said Sox gene expression is detected by nucleic acid hybridization.
5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said Sox gene expression is detected by binding of a SOX polypeptide or a SOX nucleic acid corresponding to mRNA to a detectable ligand.
6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the detectable ligand is a labeled immunoglobulin.

7. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein said detectable ligand is a labeled oligonucleotide complementary to *Sox* mRNA.

8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said *Sox* gene expression is detected by FACS analysis.

Claims 9-15 (Withdrawn)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, <sup>✓</sup>~~9 or 13~~, wherein said *Sox* gene is a member of *Sox* Group A.

17. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said *Sox* gene is *Sox1* or *Sox2*.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**